GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2979
ANSWERED ON:10.08.2001
SEIZURE OF GOLD IN DIPLOMATIC BAGS
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO;GADDE RAMAMOHAN;HARIBHAU MAHALE;M.V.V.S MURTHI;NARESH KUMAR PUGLIA;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Customs Department have seized diplomatic bags containing 100 kg. of gold biscuits alongwith heavy telecommunication equipment from a Singapore airlines flight at Chennai Airport on July 12, 2001;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof; and

(c) the action taken by the Government against the consignee of these diplomatic bags?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (REVENUE) IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI GINGEE N. RAMACHANDRAN)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. 109.021 kgs of gold biscuits alongwith gold jewellery totally weighing 10.111 kgs, 1100 nos. of RAM chips and 105 nos. of Panasonic GD 90 cell phones, collectively valued at Rs. 5.70 crores, recovered from 12 bagswhich arrived as 'diplomatic mail' in a Singapore Airlines flight, were seized by the Customs Department on 11.7.2001.

(c): In the follow up action, 5 Indian nationals were arrested under the provisions of Customs Act, 1965 and remanded to judicial custody.